

NATIONAL 4-H CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY

NATIONAL 4-H CLUB CAMP, 1950,
Great Hall, National Archives

Processional	The Champaign High School Band, Illinois Mr. Verrollton C. Shaul, Director
Presiding:	4-H Club Delegate
Invocation:	4-H Club Delegate
Chorus:	This Is My Country The Champaign High School Girls Glee Club, Illinois
Pledge of Allegiance:	4-H Club Delegate
4-H Club Pledge:	4-H Club Delegate
Presentation of New Voters:	Burton W. Marston, State Club Leader, Wyoming
The Challenge of Citizenship:	M. L. Wilson, Director of Extension Work, U.S.D.A.

Becoming of age has a special meaning to young people in a free society. In addition to granting certain legal rights and advantages, becoming of age brings the larger responsibility of taking one's full part as a citizen. Through a study of past wars, all of us have learned that liberty is not secure unless we protect it. The fight for democracy and the free way of life, however, does not end with the cessation of gunfire on the battlefield. In peace, as in war, democracy can live and thrive only to the extent that each of us remains a part of it, working daily for its improvement, inspired by an unwavering faith in what it can do for people, individually and as a nation.

The young men and women of today and those who follow must face the issue of whether "government of the people, by the people, and for the people" can be maintained on the earth. (1)

The call is sounded for young Americans, to reaffirm their faith in the basic principles of self-government, the foundation stone of our United States of America.

(1) Abraham Lincoln - Gettysburg Address.

Response by
New Voters:

In response to your challenge, "We hold these truths to be self-evident: That all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; that to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. (2)

Citizen:

Eternal vigilance is the price of democracy. The blessings it bestows come not without obligation. Active and intelligent participation is demanded of us.

Response by
New Voters:

This shall be our guide for citizenship: To believe it to be our duty to our country to love it, to support its Constitution, to obey its laws, to respect its flag, and to defend it against all enemies.

Citizen:

The stand for democracy will not be made entirely by statesmen in legislative halls. Its real heroes will for the most part remain unknown. They are behind the plow, beside the forge, and at the crossroads of commerce--vigilant men and women who in their informal counsels and enlightened discussions are also the pilots of our national destiny. The nation now looks to you to help give leadership in making this stand for democracy and in building a world of peace.

4-H CITIZENSHIP PLEDGE

Response by
New Voters -
Led by a Boy
and a Girl

Boy - We, individually and collectively, pledge our efforts from day to day to fight for the ideals of this Nation.

Girl - We will never allow tyranny and injustice to become enthroned in this, our country, through indifference to our duties as citizens.

Boy - We will strive for intellectual honesty and exercise it through our power of franchise. We will obey the laws of our land and endeavor increasingly to quicken the sense of public duty among our fellow men.

Girl - We will strive for individual improvement and for social betterment. We will devote our talents to the enrichment of our homes and our communities in relation to their material, social, and spiritual needs.

Boy - We will endeavor to transmit this Nation to posterity not merely as we found it, but freer, happier, and more beautiful than when it was transmitted to us.

The Meaning of Citizenship - - - - - The Honorable Knox T. Hutchinson,
Assistant Secretary of Agriculture

Response by We who have just taken the pledge of citizenship, will
New Voters: strive each day to live up to the obligations and
responsibilities for which citizenship in a democracy
stands.

Today probably more than at any other time in world
history we should be aware of our heritage of free speech,
a free press, and free religious choice. We aim to stimu-
late and understand democratic living and practice toler-
ance, cooperation, and mutual self-help in our homes and
in our communities. We have faith that by so doing we
will live up to today's challenge of intelligent, loyal
and courageous participation in the affairs of the Nation.

Music: America - - - - - Assembly, led by Champaign High
School Glee Club and Band

Presentation of Copies of the Constitution
of the United States to the New Voters - - - H. H. Williamson, Assistant Director
of Extension Work, U.S.D.A.

Presentation of Copies of the American
Citizens Handbook

The National Anthem - - - - - The Champaign High School Band

Note: Soft organ music to be played during the response reading.

NEW VOTERS

William A. Thayer, New Hampshire
Elizabeth Ann Lightfoot, New York
Walter Schneider, New York
Gene Sharum, Arkansas
Allen Duvall, Jr. Kentucky
Aida Lebron Seda, Puerto Rico
Jimmy Fritchett, Georgia
Richard Luensmann, Texas
Hubert Pratt, Virginia
Kenneth Heisner, Illinois
Graydon Trimble, Iowa
Irma Baresel, Kansas

Waddell Morrison, Kansas
Edna Mae Hartwell, Nebraska
Robert Fudge, Ohio
Curtis Alberty, South Dakota
Joe Rovers, Jr., South Dakota
Betty L. Herold, Wisconsin
Robert H. Fuller, Arizona
John Andreas, Jr., California
LeRoy Schlagel, Colorado
Ray H. Anstine, Idaho
William L. Enslow, Montana
Dove Sexton, Washington

NATIONAL 4-H CITIZENSHIP COMMITTEE

Burton W. Marston, Wyoming - Chairman
Martha Leighton, New York - Cochairman
Florence Howard, West Virginia
Joe H. Busty, Florida
Mrs. Marjorie Lusk, Washington
Glen M. Busset, Kansas
Joy Fincher, Alabama
Don Toenjes, California
Geraldine Solliday, Indiana
Eugene L. Mosher, Maine
Robbie G. Mims, Georgia
Marie Dickman, Colorado
Dene E. Robeson, Kansas
James Spies, Maryland
Byron C. Vaigneur, South Carolina
Nancy Hammons, Utah
Emmett Fairfax, Missouri
Margaret Ray Drummond, New Jersey